



COME AND GET IT: Preparations are underway to open Acton's Dine and Dash Breakfast Club at St. Alban's Church. Shown in the St. Alban's kitchen are church volunteer Mary Van Dinther and her children, 4-year-old Stephanie and 8-month-old Luke, with breakfast club co-ordinator Janet Cullen and her 2-year-old son John. (Frances Niblock photo)

Salvation Army to move thrift store to 110 Mill

It looks like smooth sailing for the Acton Salvation Army's plans to relocate its thrift shop to 110 Mill Street East.

No one showed up to oppose the plans at a public meeting Monday night at the Civic Centre.

Captain Wade Budgell said they want to move their thrift store operation from 120 Mill Street.

"We need more room for the store and want to move to the new

location and turn the existing store into an apartment. There is already an apartment on the top floor of the thrift shop."

The proposal requires an Official Plan amendment and zoning change since only offices are allowed in house-form buildings on Mill Street.

It is expected Town staff will make a recommendation on the proposal in two weeks.

Breakfast Club for Acton children coming soon

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK

Acton church and community volunteers will feed hungry school kids when the Acton Dine and Dash Breakfast Club opens in the new year.

As of Monday, Jan. 18, from 8 am until 8:30, all Acton school children will be invited to come to St. Alban's Church for breakfast. "We will offer a buffet-style breakfast with things like pancakes, bacon and eggs and cereal bars and juice, to any child who can get to St. Alban's," explained Breakfast Club co-ordinator Janet Cullen.

"Children are often the innocent victims of poverty," Cullen said. "It's not their fault that their parents may be out of work."

FoodShare co-ordinator Joan

Waldie recognized the need for a breakfast club about a year and a half ago.

"We were seeing a lot of clients with school-aged children that didn't have enough to eat and a lot of single parents who had to be to work very early. Kids can't learn if they don't have enough in their belly. I know Acton will support this breakfast club with the same generosity it shows the food bank.

All of the food served at the Club will come from donations from the community, from local businesses, from FoodShare and, if needed, from Toronto's Daily Bread Food Bank.

Eight teams of volunteers from Acton churches and other community groups and individuals will do

the actual cooking on a rotating basis. "The local churches have volunteered as a Christian Outreach program. We want to show that the churches in town care about the needs of Acton by working together as one body of Christians.

"We didn't want the government involved because we didn't want to spend our time writing reports and fighting red tape," Cullen explained. "We want to feed the hungry kids."

The Dine and Dash Breakfast Club is looking for the donation of a microwave oven, kitchen utensils, dishes and pots and pans.

If you would like to volunteer your services, equipment or food, please call Janet Cullen at 853-2712.

Councillor questions building permit delays

Acton Councillor Norm Elliott does not think that it's fair that some Acton residents have to wait six to eight weeks for building permits for small projects, like backyard decks.

At Monday night's General Committee meeting Elliott said he is getting complaints from people who don't understand why it could take months to get a permit.

Town staff explained that there is a backlog of building permit

applications waiting to be reviewed by the Town's plan examiner. Councillors were also told that small building permits account for 60 to 70 per cent of the work load yet generate just 10 per cent of the department's revenue.

"I know some of the permits may be mundane but there's a lot of frustration when it takes months to get a permit for a small project," Elliott said.

"Isn't there some method where

the small permit requests could be diverted into a different channel and handled differently?" he asked.

Staff also explained that some of the smaller permit applications take longer to deal with because the plans submitted by the public need major revisions. That led Mayor Russ Miller to suggest that the Town needs to educate the public about how to submit proper plans in order to avoid any unnecessary delays.

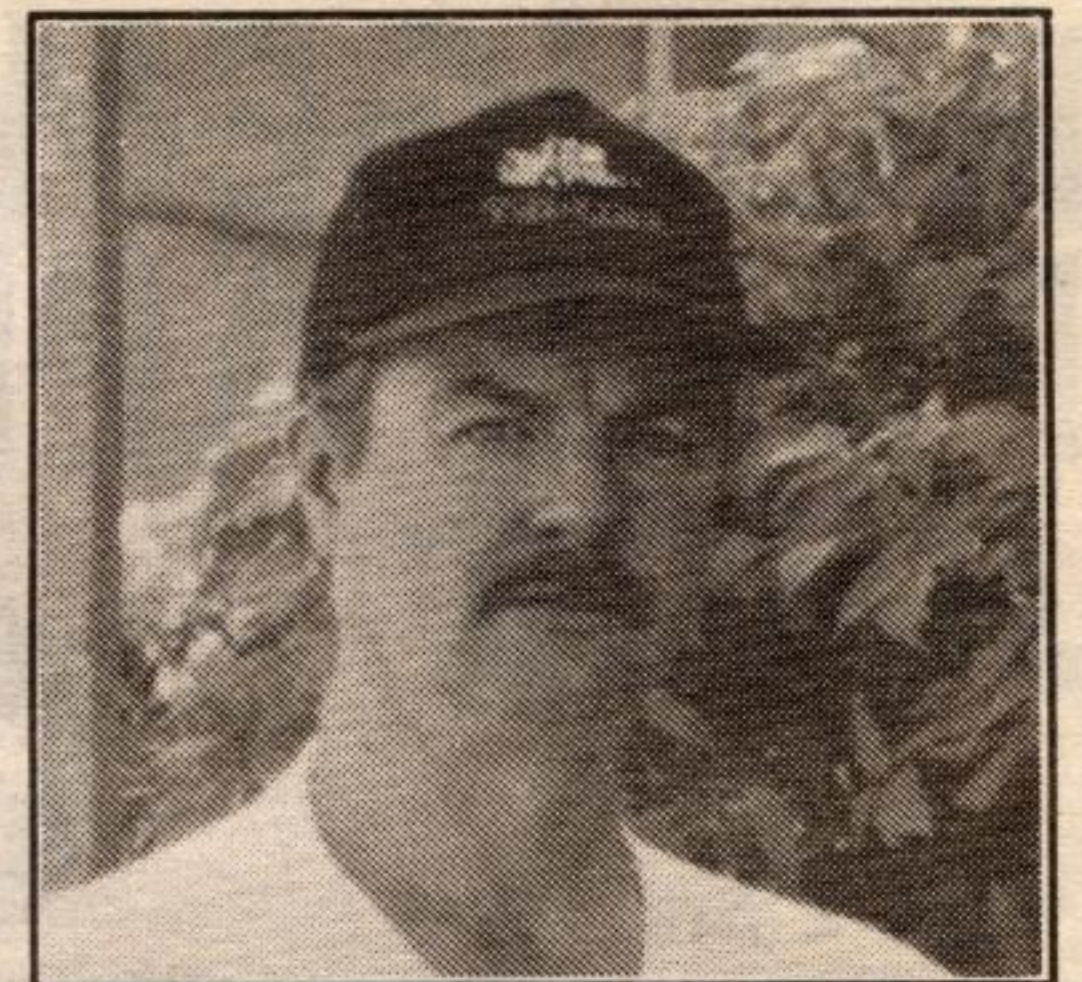
Acton man, 43, dies in single car crash

Funeral services were held Monday for Acton's Garry Taillefer, who was killed in a high-speed single vehicle accident late Thursday night on Highway 24 near Brucedale.

Guelph OPP are still investigating the accident that occurred when the 43-year-old Taillefer lost control of a 1979 Jeep belonging to passenger 32-year-old Scott Withers of Acton. The vehicle left the road on the west side and police

report Taillefer over-corrected and the Jeep crossed the highway and flipped in the ditch. Both Taillefer and Withers were thrown from the vehicle.

Taillefer was pronounced dead upon arrival at Guelph General Hospital and Withers was transferred from Guelph General to St. Joseph's Hospital, where he is listed in satisfactory condition with leg injuries and cuts and bruises.



GARRY TAILLEFER



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